

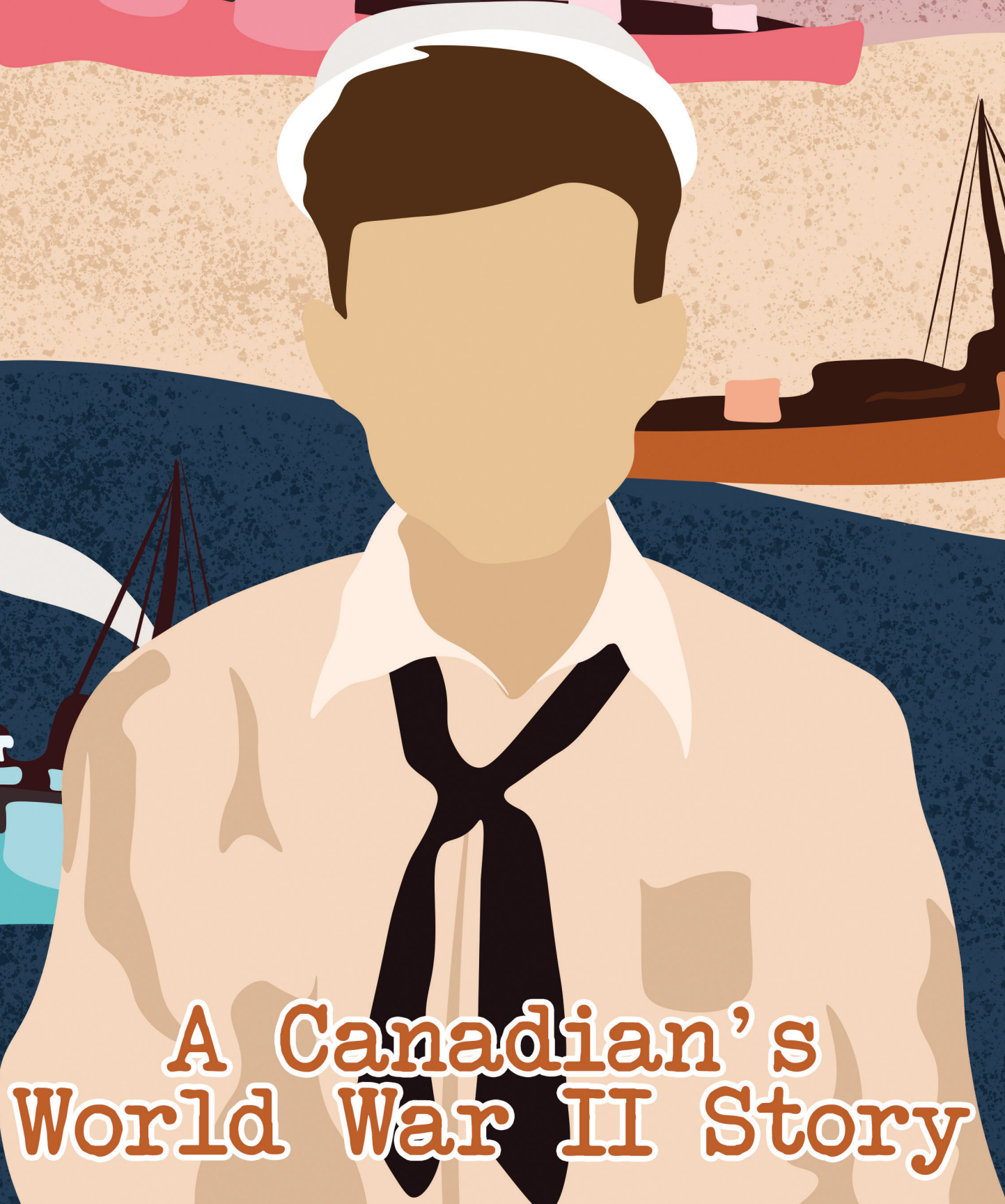
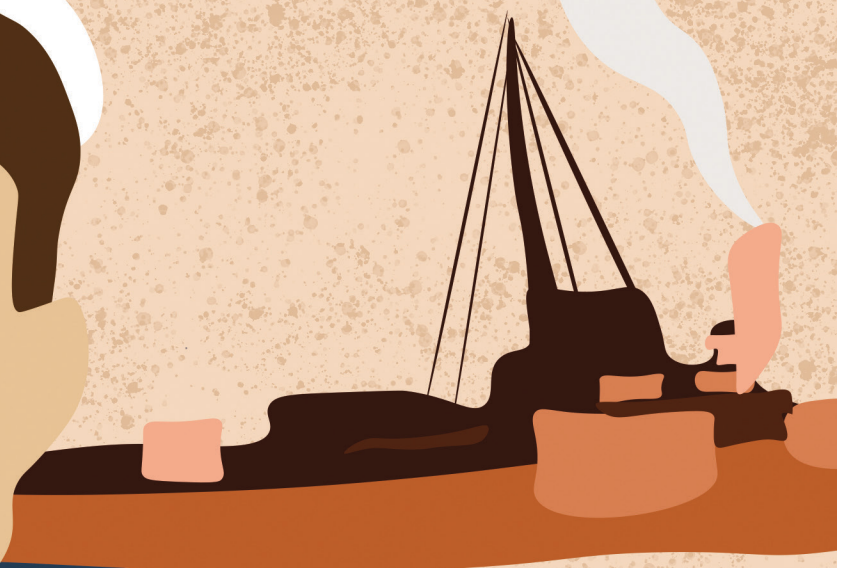
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A Canadian's
World War II Story

We should take 'remembrance' literally

Janis McMath
Editor-in-Chief

It has been 102 years since WWI ended, and 75 years since WWII ended. Understandably, newer generations have lost touch with these events that impacted our global history on a massive scale. For example, a survey taken by Ancestry.com shows that only 22 percent of Canadians could identify Canada's prime minister during WWI. Eight percent even made the error of choosing Winston Churchill as Canada's PM at the time... when he was actually Britain's during WWII.

Canadians also seem to be disconnected to the histories of their own families; in the same survey, 38 percent of respondents said they were not aware of whether or not they had a relative that served in WWI. Most damning is an Ipsos poll for Global News including quiz questions on D-Day—one of the most notable moments for Canadian soldiers—which left the vice president of Ipsos disappointed. It's not surprising that he was sad; about half of those polled could not even get three answers correct and nearly 20 percent couldn't even guess a single answer correctly. An astonishing 42 percent of those polled could not even identify Adolf-Hitler-led Germany as the country the Allies were fighting.

The cherry on top is that these questions had five multiple choice answers and were straightforward, yet Canadians still said "I don't know" instead of even venturing an uneducated guess that they had a 20 percent chance of getting right. Clearly, Canadians are lacking a proper education on some of the most significant events in recent history. With this knowledge, we should re-evaluate what we take for granted about Remembrance Day. The sacrifices made by people during the wars are what fuel our freedoms and democratic society today, so we should prioritize paying respect. We should use Remembrance Day not only as a day to remember, but a day to *learn*.

On to Cincinnati,

JANIS

Janis McMath




Illustration by Athena Little


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- Fire related fatalities on the rise in BC
 - Large Halloween gatherings defended by the public opinion
 - Restrictions increase in BC despite data
- ...and more

Fire related fatalities on the rise in BC

› How to protect yourself and your home this winter



Jessica Berget
Assistant Editor

With the rise of residential and building fire reports in the Metro Vancouver area over past few months, now is a great time to talk about fire safety and prevention.

As more people stay indoors because of the colder temperatures and COVID-19 stay-at-home regulations, the risk of accidental house and building fires has been increased. In fact, fire related fatalities are already on the rise in BC, with 15 deaths so far this year—three

times as many as 2019—according to CBC. In comparison, for an average year Vancouver sees four fire related deaths and 49 injuries. Jonathan Gormick, public information officer for the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services, says this rise in deaths could be related to the pandemic and more distractions with people working from home. “They might start to cook a meal and then get distracted by work or schooling or any number of those things—and that’s when fires occur.”

This year, firefighters also dealt with a 17 percent increase in indoor fires and 20 percent increase for outdoor for the past two months. They ask people to regularly check their smoke alarms; according to a 2019 news release by the province of BC, there was no working smoke alarm for 43 percent of fire related deaths. It is also recommended to test your alarms every month and changing the batteries every year, and to have an emergency preparedness plan in the case of a fire.

The province of BC also states in the news release that the most common causes of fire to look out for include cooking related equipment or leaving cooking unattended, matches or lighters and other

smoking materials, as well as space heaters and other heating equipment. According to another 2003 to 2007 study by the public safety division of Alberta Municipal Affairs (which was based on fire incident data in Canadian provinces), some other causes of home fires are candles, faulty electrical wiring in your house, smoking, and drying machines. The same study found that people over the age 75 are more at risk of dying in home fires.

According to the City of Vancouver, a fire related death happens in North America every 80 minutes and someone is treated for burns every 15 seconds; it is crucial to have a fire safety and evacuation plan. Some aspects of a safety plan include drawing a floor plan with two exits for every room, choosing a meeting place that is a safe distance from your home, and calling 911 once everyone has reached the meeting place. They also recommend practising evacuation activities like staying low to the ground to avoid smoke fumes, feeling doors for heat before opening them, and getting out immediately after hearing a fire alarm.

COVID-19 update

› Restrictions increase in BC despite data

Timothy Easling
Senior Columnist

The narrative in many news stories, as well as the government’s own messaging, continues to highlight case numbers despite the total deaths remaining relatively low. While there have been 578 deaths since October 25, almost 96 percent of those (552) are from those 60-and-up—often in long term care homes (LTCs), acute care, or assisted living, and with multiple comorbidities. There is still a risk for those of advanced age and weakened states, but the general population can continue forward knowing there is little reason for the average Canadian to be afraid of dying from COVID-19.

Countrywide from October 25 to November 9, the 0-39 age bracket suffered 1 additional death, the 40-49 age bracket, 9, and the 50-59 age bracket, 16. These numbers are further put into perspective when considering how massive the case numbers are in relation to the few deaths. The 0-39 age bracket saw 29,377 more cases, the 40-49 age bracket had 7,463 more, the 50-59 age bracket observed 6,708 more, and the 60+ age bracket recorded 9,521 more. Just from the last two weeks of cases, the fatality rate for each bracket was 0.003 percent (0-39), 0.12 percent (40-49),

0.23 percent (50-59), and 6 percent (60+).

As evident from the relatively low death toll, hospitalization figures remained steady—and with almost none of them (again, for those not of advanced age and weakened states) resulting in death. Almost 77 percent of hospitalizations were from the 60+ age bracket (2,669 more) with the lower age brackets registering small totals: 0-39—272 more, 40-49—195 more, 50-59—335 more. ICU admittances remained much the same with there only being 251 total. Of those 251, 73 percent (184) were from the 60+ age bracket. The remaining 67 cases were split among the lower age brackets: 0-39—17, 40-49—21, and 50-59—29.

British Columbia suffered 25 deaths from 6,160 cases since October 25. The population of the province is 5,147,712. In spite of the figures from across the country and in BC, Provincial Health Officer Bonnie Henry issued a two-week health order (until November 23) to the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions. The order banned all social gatherings with people who are not a part of one’s household as well as indoor group physical activities where physical distancing cannot be maintained; travel outside of the regions is also strongly discouraged.

All 24 outbreaks in Fraser Health are in LTCs, acute care, or assisted living;

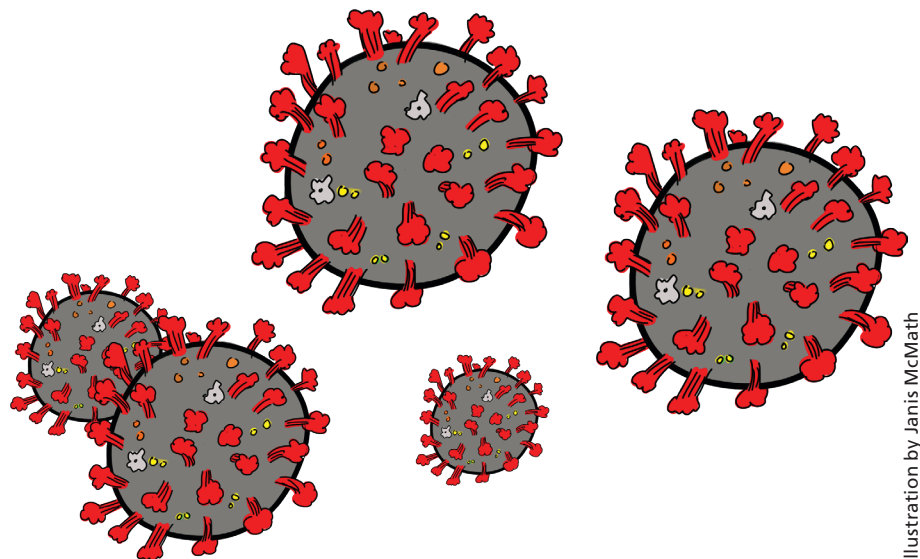


Illustration by Janis McMath

the same goes for all nine outbreaks in Vancouver Coastal Health. There are 11 current public exposure notices for Fraser Health and zero for Vancouver Coastal Health.

The order brought much confusion to BC residents—as well as both authorities. Vancouver Coastal Health said “The Provincial Health Order in effect (dated Nov. 7) applies to social gatherings inside private residences, & receptions following weddings & funerals. All other outdoor gatherings can continue according to pre-existing Public Health guidelines & previous Orders,” while Fraser Health offered a contradictory statement, “Provincial health orders now in effect until November 23 require that residents of Fraser Health avoid gatherings of any kind with anyone outside of your immediate household.”

Many associations, including the West Vancouver Minor Hockey Association—which has seen zero cases—have been critical of the order (but still compliant). There are more than 20,000 kids playing hockey in the Lower Mainland and zero cases. “The decision to include Minor Hockey in the closure of indoor sports is not based on the facts: of how the sport is organized, how we’ve been putting into place protocols to safeguard our players, our children from the pandemic and most importantly that there has been no transmission of the virus within the environment of minor hockey in the Lower Mainland. It seems to be a bit of a knee-jerk reaction to include a sport that has a track record of really not being a situation where the virus has been transmitted,” said the president of the league, Tom Oberti.

Homicides in Vancouver often pose no threat to the public

› BC citizens believe in rising crime regardless of contradictory data



Photo by Arnaldo Fragozo

Janis McMath
Editor-in-Chief

Vancouver has seen multiple culpable homicides in the past few months. (Culpable homicide is defined by the Government of Canada's website as wilful actions that result in someone's death.) September saw three and October saw one. The VPD reports that October's most recent murder was the 15th this year. Comparing this data to previous years' shows that the homicide rate is steady. For comparison, 2015 had 16 murders; 2016 had 12; 2017 had 19; 2018 had 15; and 2019 had 10.

Near Kitsilano Beach, a recycling bin was found with human remains on October 18. They were later identified as Douglas Wanke, a 57-year-old resident of the city. At this point, not much else is known but it has been ruled a homicide and is being investigated as such. Vancouver police ask property managers and residents to call 604-717-2500 to report any missing big, blue, and wheeled recycling bins.

In September, the three homicides that occurred all did so in one night. Two of the homicides that evening were related; officers found two people unresponsive in a room of the Astoria

hotel on East Hastings Street—one was pronounced dead at the scene and the other was pronounced at the hospital they were taken to. Within half-an-hour of the first homicide-related call came another; 23-year-old Iqbal Grewal was found dead in front of a house on East 64th Avenue and Knight Street in South Vancouver. The emergency centre received multiple calls in regard to the shots fired in the neighbourhood—one caller from the neighbourhood who spoke to Global News claims to have heard up to eight gunshots. Richmond RCMP later found a burned-up vehicle in a field near Kartner Road and Westminster Highway that has been confirmed to be connected to the shooting of Grewal. For all three of these homicides, the police have released a statement stating they do not believe there is a risk to the public.

A lack of risk to the public is a common trend for the homicides seen in Vancouver—many of the recent incidents have been planned and targeted killings that pose no risk to the population at a whole. As mentioned before, Vancouver has seen 15 culpable homicides in 2020. Of those 15, police have made statements on 11 of them as cases that are of no risk to the public. The remaining four cases have been two cases of manslaughter—which is defined as homicides committed without intent of causing death but may have had intent of causing great bodily harm—and one case of second-degree murder, which is defined as an intentional killing

without any premeditated actions. The 15th homicide case is yet to be determined, but still, the majority of homicide cases in Vancouver have been deemed targeted and of no risk to the public.

Seemingly, targeted killings are a common trend—and they can be observed in a similar context: the United States. The US Department of Justice released a report in 2012 stating that between the years of 1993 to 2008, 21 to 27 percent of homicides were committed by strangers—the majority of homicides, 73 to 79 percent, were committed “by offenders known to the victims.” An older report by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics mentions that in 1996, “only 14 percent of homicide victims were killed by a stranger.”

Vancouver also has one of the lower rates of homicides in the world; for example, Tijuana, Mexico had 1,305 murders in 2020 as of the end of August, which is about 5.5 per day. Regardless of this fact, and the fact that many of the murders in Vancouver were not random and that homicide rates (and crime rates in general) are steady, polls show that our population believes that crime is going up. An Angus Reid poll from 2020 found that about half of all Canadians believe that crime is on the rise—and this idea was “considerably” higher in western provinces of Canada like BC. This is not new news either; a 1997 Angus Reid poll found that 59 percent of Canadians thought that crime was going up—and, again, these ideas were more common in western provinces.

Large Halloween gatherings defended by the public opinion

› Citizens offer perspectives on Granville Street partiers during COVID

CJ Sommerfeld
Staff Writer

Hundreds of partygoers swarmed the Granville Street strip on Halloween evening. These actions went against suggestions from Dr. Bonnie Henry, who urged Canadians to avoid large crowds on this night. While media outposts following this night labeled these Halloween-celebrators as irresponsible and selfish, the public instead defends fellow-Vancouverites by saying that perspectives regarding virus transmission are changing.

In an online chat with the *Other Press*, Bijan—a long-time Vancouver resident—offers a reason for the seemingly incautious partiers. He tells us that what occurred on October 31 “is indicative of the changing opinion around the disease.” He explains by saying that people are intensely weighing the prospect of getting sick against the negative side effects associated with loneliness and depression. He concludes that gathering to party during a pandemic can be labelled irresponsible when regarding it solely from a COVID-transmission stance, however,

the argument for celebrating is sound when considered through a mental health lens.

Mary Menthol (whose name was changed at their request), a teacher at Douglas College, has a similar stance. However, she worries for those within these parties' bubbles. When speaking with the *Other Press*, she agrees that “people are feeling cooped up and frustrated, and this is the result.” And while she offers justification for the Granville Street Halloween celebrators, she expresses her concern about the consequences which these actions may cause. “[The partiers] will now be bringing whatever exposure they had in that crowd back into their bubbles.”

When comparing the restrictions that have taken place in the Vancouver area with those in other parts of the world, Lower Mainlanders have been granted more freedoms than others. It was only last week that certain Ontario hotspots reopened gyms and theatres; however, the social distancing guidelines within these places has increased to three meters. Ireland's wet bars only opened on September 21, after being closed since

March. The Spanish province of Catalonia was in complete lockdown twice. They recently introduced new restrictions that prohibit travel in or out of the province; cafés, bars, and restaurants are closed for dine-in, and all cultural activities are completely suspended. And in Mexico, face masks (*cubre bocas*) were mandated in March to be worn in all public and semi-public places—including one's own car. This mandate is still enforced in twenty-four of the country's states. Currently, Vancouverites are not experiencing any of these restrictions, however new lockdown orders have recently been put into place asking residents to stay at home and isolated for the next two weeks until Nov 23. On October 21, the European Union removed Canadians from their list of approved travellers allowed to enter due to the rise in cases within our country.



Photo by Billy Bui

“I suspect this sort of behaviour will continue through the winter, regardless of stay-home and social distancing orders [...] people are fed up,” Bijan concludes. COVID fatigue has set in; people are tired of being locked-up, tired of being cautious, and tired of being scared.

- What history tells us about the top of the top
 - Joe Murphy: from hockey legend to homeless
- ...and more

Joe Murphy: from hockey legend to homeless

› Former NHL great reflects on the effects of numerous concussions

Brandon Yip
Senior Columnist

Joe Murphy was the number one overall pick in the 1986 NHL Entry Draft. He was a talented player who possessed great speed and offensive skill. Before he began his NHL career with the Detroit Red Wings, he won the Calder Cup and NCAA championships.

In the 1989-90 season, Murphy was traded to the Edmonton Oilers, and he would win a Stanley Cup with them the following spring. He played on a line known as the “Kid Line” with Adam Graves and Martin Gelinas. The line was productive during the playoffs. Murphy would play three seasons with the Oilers before he was traded to the Chicago Blackhawks in 1993. He later played with four more teams: St. Louis, San Jose, Boston, and Washington—before retiring in 2001.

Unfortunately, Murphy suffered numerous concussions during his NHL career, and the damage from those concussions greatly impacted his post-hockey life. He has had various symptoms including wild mood swings, constant headaches, and personality changes—including turning into an enforcer and beginning to take alcohol and drugs. Murphy earned over \$15 million during his NHL career, yet he became destitute and homeless in Kenora, Ontario.

In the 2018 TSN documentary, *Finding Murph*, TSN reporter Rick Westhead detailed Murphy’s life living in the streets in Kenora. It also showed former NHL goaltender, Trevor Kidd, driving his truck while searching for Murphy. He would eventually locate Murphy sitting outside a convenience store. Kidd had a brief conversation with Murphy, and after being

told about Westhead wanting to speak with him, Murphy agreed to be interviewed.

Murphy was very candid and honest about his own situation to Westhead: “The people here are so kind, and they love hockey and I love to talk about hockey. Here’s the truth. I’m sleeping on the ground right here and I’m worried about my health. I am soaking wet and cold all of the time. I have a headache. My head is pounding. I need a place to stay. I’m disappointed that no one from hockey has been in touch with me but I’m not mad at the alumni. I don’t need money. I know I wouldn’t spend it properly. But I need help. I’m also just a little disappointed with my life. I’ve made some bad choices.”

Furthermore, Murphy admitted that he had been using drugs due to the concussions he had suffered. “I struggled for a few years with cocaine and crystal meth after I first left the NHL,” Murphy said. “Why did I do it? I have been suffering. I have been struggling with the concussions. I do have a head issue. It’s the truth. I remember seeing fireflies after some of those hits and I still see them. I’ve used marijuana a few times more recently but nothing more.”

Former NHL goaltender, Glenn Healy, is the current executive director and president of the NHL Alumni Association. He is very aware of Murphy’s situation. In September 2018, Westhead of TSN reported that Healy and Adam Graves, former NHL player and Oiler teammate to Murphy, traveled to Kenora and visited with Murphy for several hours. Healy and Graves declined to comment on their visit. Speaking in a phone interview with the *Other Press*, Healy declined to disclose further about Murphy’s current situation in order to maintain confidentiality: “I can say this—any player, any place, any time

that needs help—can get help from us. So, with no exceptions, whether it is a coping issue that you have [...] or whether it is an immigration issue, we are there to make sure that we help.”

Former Oilers defenseman, Kevin Lowe—Joe Murphy’s teammate on the 1990 Oilers cup winning team—wishes the best for his former teammate. Lowe told the *Other Press* in an email interview that “sadly, I never got to know Joe very well the couple years we played together. I was concerned for him when the story surfaced about him being on the street.”

In the documentary, Murphy’s sister Cathy said that her brother is a good person, and he should be able to get help. “He deserves to have help. He didn’t do anything wrong. It’s easy to pass judgment and say you know, ‘he’s crazy, he’s eccentric.’ He didn’t go in crazy and eccentric. So, tell me, what happened along the way?” When Cathy was asked for her reaction to the NHL and its fans suggesting that Murphy is homeless due to making poor choices she responded, “I think when you have a brain injury and people make a judgment like that—they have no idea what they’re talking about. His mind doesn’t think like a normal person’s mind thinks.”



Promotional image for 'Finding Murph'

Recently, Murphy was discovered living out in the streets in Regina. He told CTV News Regina in August 2020 that he was in Saskatchewan visiting a friend in Saskatoon—stating it was his first trip to the province. Murphy said he planned to return to Ontario when the time is appropriate for him. “I’m still enjoying life, I love it, I’m kind of moving around, and I’m on the street and I’m in a shelter.” He went on to say that “I just want to get a place where I can get into a steady rental place.”

Cathy hopes that her brother is able to get the help he needs: “It’s devastating. He’s my brother. What am I supposed to do? It makes me want to cry. He’s a good human being. He doesn’t deserve to live like this.” Murphy’s daughter, Krystal, also hopes her father will seek help to get himself off the streets: “If I was face-to-face with my dad, I would just tell him that I love him—that I am there for him. I support him. My dad has survived things that would kill most people. He is a survivor, and he can survive this too. But he has to fight and he has to take help.”

Common traits in NBA championship winning teams

Mo Hussain
Sports Reporter

The road to winning an NBA championship is anything but easy. Whether it’s identifying the right talented pieces that fit well into the team or having to deal with 29 other teams constantly coming up with new ways to try to get one step ahead, it can be a very difficult task. However, history shows that there are some common key traits and attributes in championship winning teams that separate them from the pack.

MVP Calibre Player

This one may seem obvious, but it is important to point out that only one team (the Detroit Pistons) over the past 20 years

has been able to win an NBA championship without an NBA MVP on their roster. Whether it was the Spurs with Tim Duncan, the Warriors with Stephen Curry, the Heat with LeBron James, etc., every team pretty much has to have an MVP caliber superstar.

The necessity for a superstar among stars is in part because basketball players are much more in control of the outcome of a game than in most other team sports due to the relatively small number of players in each game—and the fact that MVP-calibre players are usually playing 75 percent of the game. Having a player who is, or at least can be argued to be, the most valuable player in the league is essentially a pre-requisite to an NBA championship.

Complementary All-Star

Do not get caught up in the notion that one superstar is enough. History seems to show that it’s also important to have someone (not necessarily another MVP-calibre player) who is a perennial NBA All-star that complements the MVP-calibre player: LeBron James had Anthony Davis with the Lakers, Steph Curry had Kevin Durant with the Warriors, Kawhi Leonard had Kyle Lowry with the Raptors. An individual has a lot more control in the sport of basketball than in other sports, but that doesn’t mean one can neglect to bring in other complementary pieces.

Veteran Presence

Not many people have been inside NBA locker rooms or really know the kind

of impact veterans have on their teams, but history seems to show that having experienced players is a common trait. Over the past 20 years, the average age of the oldest player on a given championship team is roughly 35.4 years old. The reasons for such a veteran presence can vary depending on each team. A popular theory is that having an older player who isn’t playing as much on a roster might be seen as a stabilizer for the relatively younger players. The wisdom and experience can very much play a key role in helping guide the younger stars on their respective teams to make good decisions on the floor.

THE NHL DURING WORLD WAR II

› Effects of war on the hockey world and teams

Brandon Yip
Senior Columnist

The NHL almost stopped playing hockey during World War II. League officials and the Canadian government were conflicted; was playing hockey during wartime appropriate when thousands of Canadians were in Europe fighting and paying the ultimate sacrifice?

Hockey writer Stan Fischler, in his September 2017 article about the NHL's dilemma during World War II, stated the NHL and government officials in both the US and Canada struggled in deciding if playing hockey was the best decision from a public relations perspective. Politicians in Canada argued in favour of the NHL to cease playing hockey. Their reasoning was that it was the patriotic thing to do; this sentiment was echoed by Canada's Minister of Defence J.L. Ralston.

Ironically, it would not be a Canadian who would have the most influence in trying to resolve this dispute. Charles Sawyer, a renowned American statesman and lawyer, was hired by the NHL

Black, summarized the general consensus of the meeting: "After much deliberation, hockey was given the go-ahead but with [the] important understanding that no player would be absolved from military duty in order to play hockey." Later, the NHL announced its general policy, stating that "it was opposed to employment by any club of any person who should properly be in active service for his country."

Remarkably, each NHL team during the Original Six era (1942-1967), had numerous players that were on active service during World War II. Known as hockey's "Victory Lineup" at the beginning of the 1942-43 season, the Montreal Canadiens had 11 players; the Chicago Black Hawks, 7 (spelling later changed to Blackhawks

during this period: during the 1944-45 season, Montreal Canadiens legend Maurice "Rocket" Richard became the first NHL player to score 50 goals in one season (50-game schedule). After the end of World War II in 1945, some players who had joined the armed forces had difficulty in their return to hockey. Many players lost their creativity, speed, and abilities to play at the NHL level. One team that particularly struggled was the New York Rangers. In the 1941-42 season, they finished in first place. However, over the next five seasons, the Rangers would miss the playoffs.

During the 1943-44 season, the Rangers had only five players returning from the previous season. General manager, Lester Patrick, asked the league to suspend his team's play for the rest of the war. He was ultimately swayed otherwise, however. The Rangers continued playing their season, and their depleted roster was plainly obvious—winning only six games in a 50-game schedule—they also conceded 310 goals that season. The Rangers were in such dire need for players that the head coach—42-year-old Frank Boucher—made a short comeback. Boucher

and the American Hockey League to influence the Canadian politicians who were obstinate in their anti-hockey stance. Sawyer delivered this message: "We Americans are as anxious as the most loyal Canadians to win this war. [But] we want to keep up our morale. We must not sit and brood when the day's work is done but live our normal lives so we can back up our fighting forces overseas. We do not want a single man who is fit for some form of military service to be allowed to play hockey. But let's have the rejects, or average players, to fill the ranks until the boys come home from marching."

Furthermore, an even greater influencer for the nation to keep playing hockey came from the director of Canada's National Selective Services. The main argument to keep hockey operating was it would help increase the morale of the public. In September 1942, NHL owners announced a decision during their semi-annual meeting in Toronto. An article entitled "Canadiens' Cold War Coup," written by Canadian author Ricky

in 1986); the Boston Bruins, 16; the Detroit Red Wings, 8; the Toronto Maple Leafs, 14; and the New York Rangers, 19.

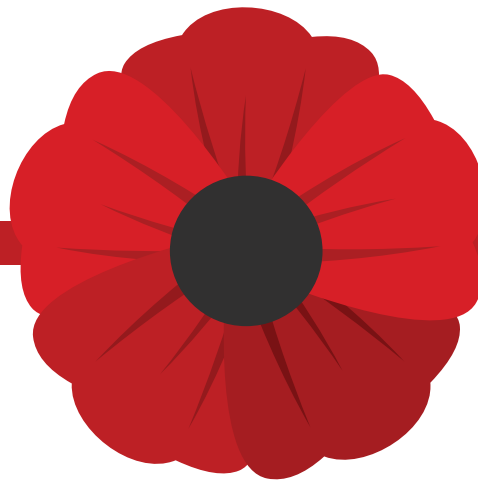
Even with NHL teams having depleted rosters during wartime, the public did not stay away from hockey games; attendance at NHL games increased. In 1944, the Toronto Maple Leafs played their home games to 88.6 percent capacity, and the Montreal Canadiens played to 100 percent capacity. The four US teams of Boston, Chicago, Detroit, and New York also enjoyed significant attendance increases. The NHL removing overtime for the duration did not affect fan enthusiasm.

One notable NHL milestone would be set

proved not to be a detriment, as he scored 4 goals and had 10 assists in 15 games.

In contrast, one team that flourished after the end of World War II was the Toronto Maple Leafs. Starting in the 1946-47 season, the Maple Leafs had several rookies in the lineup. Owner Conn Smythe, who had received praise for his bravery as a wounded hero during both world wars—referred to the young players as "old pappy guys." The Maple Leafs would become the first team in NHL history to win three consecutive Stanley Cups and four championships in five seasons—becoming arguably the league's first dynasty.

Despite the many challenges faced by the NHL during the wartime years, the league and players ultimately proved to be resilient. And despite many NHL teams having depleted rosters, fans still continued to pack arenas to watch hockey; this was further proof that the game of hockey was powerful enough to bring people and countries together—even during difficult times like World War II.



- Recent films related to the 2020 US Election
 - How to get into metal
 - Cuffing season music is in full swing
- ...and more

Never before heard 1970s lo-fi home recordings resurrected in new album

› A look into self-taught music producer and engineer Robert Lester Folsom's past

CJ Sommerfeld
Staff Writer

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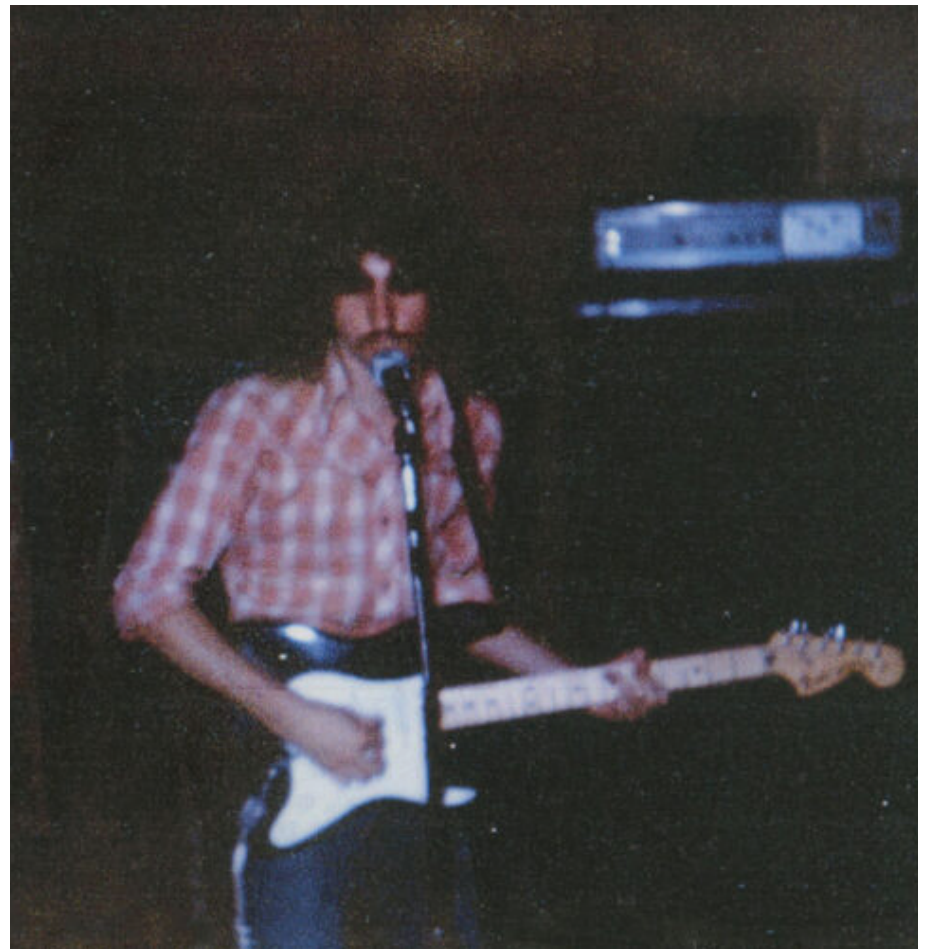
Last month, Anthology Recordings—a label that repurposes music from the past—archived a long lost and never-heard album by Robert Lester Folsom. The record, titled *Abacus Atlanta Sessions*, resurrects lo-fi sounds of the '70s, a texture often viewed as erroneous in present day music. Despite only being released now, forty-five years after it was recorded, it sounds like what some of today's music is inspired by.

In the 1970s, Georgia-born Folsom recorded his own music with a stereo tape deck and reel-to-reel recorder. He named his label Abacus Records. Here, he self-produced and engineered his only album for his band also named Abacus; the album was titled *Music and Dreams*. It too was revived in 2010 by another independent label, Mexican Summer. Following this, in 2014, Anthology digitally released another

album of Folsom's which was comprised of the first batch of his un-heard home recordings under the title *Ode To A Rainy Day: Archives 1972-1975*.

In a short documentary, Folsom's band-creating and producing measures are creative endeavors, however they are done with a business-like mind. He self-taught himself how to compose and record, and he also transformed his reel-to-reel stereo tape deck into a multi-track tape deck. In choosing a name for his band, he strategically picked one whose lettering would gain the band exposure in record shops. With its first three letters being a-b-a, it preceded ABBA, making it the first record that people would see when thumbing through the collection of records at the store.

After producing his first record, it was difficult to find places for his band to play Abacus originals—songs which not many people had heard of. Instead of being open to new music, many people in the South at that time preferred to dance to tunes which they were familiar with. It is a shame



that only one of his albums were previously released, however thanks to Anthology's atypical vision, these lo-fi sounds and the unconventional way which they came to be have been made available for the public.

This new-but-old record *Abacus Atlanta Sessions* reminisces porch and garage made rock and roll, and dad cover band sounds. Its tracks vary from psychedelic instrument ensembles as in "Truck Stop" and the first third of "Lunar Pie." The illusive beginning of the ten-minute song slows into droned vocals and pensive minor chords, just before concluding with another instrument ensemble—this one hindering of texturally thick 1970s roll and roll.

"Jericho (My Quiet Place)" sounds like it could have been written about

Vancouver's own beaches. The number induces daydreams of some faraway utopia with its psychedelic riffs. Another tune, "I Want To Tell You," is a love song and is reminiscent of chillwave artist, Toro y Moi's legato vocals. Folsom's untrained voice resonates through the album, reminding us that something doesn't need to glitter to be gold. The album's seven tunes contrast in style and timbre and make me wonder if they were ever meant to be comprised together on a single album.

It is impressive how we can still enjoy tunes that were created a half-century ago, much like it is interesting to think that a lot of the music we hear today is built on all that has come before it. Who knows what other unheard melodies will be released decades after they were produced?



Photos courtesy of Anthology Recordings

Our political history reflected on the big screen

› Recent films related to the 2020 US Election

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist

In the first four years of the Donald Trump presidency, the businessman would improve the US economy and reduce unemployment in the country. At the same time, he would divide the country, cause controversy through his tweets on Twitter, not get along with some world leaders, and go hard at the people that do not agree with his policies. Several films were released under Trump's presidency, and all are part of what is called "Trump Cinema." This includes *Coco*, *The Farewell*, *Jojo Rabbit*, the Academy Award winning *Parasite*, and even *The Avengers: Endgame*.

There were a few unexpected films that were released this year during this election year though they are now available through streaming services. One of these surprises is the film version of the Talking Heads musical *American Utopia* which I reviewed last week. Half of it involved David Byrne talking about why voting in an election is important and encouraged the audience to increase the voter turnout in this year's election. Because Spike Lee directed it, there were some powerful moments—especially on the issue of

African Americans. An example would be when the entire cast sang the Janelle Monáe song, "Hell You Talmbout," where they say the names of African Americans that were shot and cuts to a relative of the victim holding a picture of him or her. The song "Everybody's Coming to My House" talks about the immigration situation and how new immigrants would not want to leave their new home.

Another musical that had a film version made recently is also likely the greatest musical of all time and is very relevant today: *Hamilton*. The movie was filmed a month after the musical version got Best Musical at the Tony Awards in June 2016—five months before Donald Trump surprisingly won the election that year. The songs in the musical are great and it has a similar structure to Lin-Manuel Miranda's previous production *In the Heights*; the production shows that Alexander Hamilton is the father of the United States because he wrote most of the US Constitution. However, it also explains that government in the 1790s was just as bad as government today... except they had procedures that were barbaric (like shootouts).

Even *Hamilton* threw his reputation to the ground when he slept with another

married woman and it is related to accusations that were made during the election. The man who shot him, Aaron Burr, wanted to be in the room where it happened where he would later find out about the affair. An interesting fact is that *Hamilton*'s wife, Eliza, opened the first orphanage in New York City.

Just before the election happened, Sacha Baron Cohen's Kazakhstan reporter Borat Sagdiyev makes a surprise return in *Borat: Subsequent Moviefilm* which is only available on Amazon Prime Video. This time, Borat is on a mission to deliver Johnny the Monkey to Vice President Mike Pence until he finds out that his daughter, Tutar, is going along for the ride. It tackles issues like propaganda (similar to fake news), and feminism—especially through the

relationship between Borat and Tutar.

There was also a reference to the Justin Trudeau blackface controversy and a lot of vulgar jokes like in the previous film. If Donald Trump is not the President of the United States, there will still always be a period in cinema that explores and reflects his historic presidency.



Illustration by Udesht Seneviratne

How to get into metal

› From someone who just recently started listening

Sonam Kaloti
Arts Editor

In no way am I an expert in metal—I am merely someone who (finally) started listening to it a few months ago. I'd always known it would be my kind of genre, but I was never able to enjoy it. Oddly, it used to give me a headache, despite being able to listen to the hardest electronic music with no problem. Luckily, now I'm able to headbang it out around my home.

I suppose it may have been my life situation which warranted the aggression of metal (I moved out in August and started medical school), or maybe it was the process of seeking it out on my own rather than it being recommended to me. Whatever the case, here's how it happened for me, and how it may just work for you if you want to begin being a bit of a metalhead.

Seek it out on your own

This obviously may not work since I am recommending it to you, and I will continue to do that for the rest of the article. However, this can be practised in all areas of life. If there's something you think you might be able to get into, try it! Some things can feel more fun and personal if you've put in the effort to find them yourself (plus then there's no doubt that you're doing it for your own benefit only)!

Don't quit immediately

I've tried multiple times to get into the genre and have been recommended plenty of artists that I just didn't like at

all. Surprisingly, the ones that got me into metal are not the ones that my metalhead friends listen to!

Find what you like

There are so many subgenres in metal that it's easy to give it one go, not like it, and stop trying (AKA what I did). Instead, I suggest trying to go through a music app metal playlist and seeing where you stand with some of the songs.

I just let the playlist play over a few days without judgment and without paying too close attention. When a song would catch my attention, I would add it to my own personal playlist to come back to. When a song played and I found myself either singing along or wanting to know what they were saying (yes, it is difficult sometimes), then I added that song to my playlist, as well. The first step is just being interested.

Delve deeper

In my band last year, we practiced the song "The Way the News Goes" by Periphery, whom I did not know at the time, but now really enjoy their song "Remain Indoors." Before that, I had found the song "So Strange" by Polyphia because Cuco is featured on it and I listen to him. Both of which I liked but hadn't put in thought or effort to listen to the rest of their music until much later. If there's some song or band you've heard that you've been even a little into, try listening to some of their other work.

Even further, once I got a good amount of songs on my playlist, I was



Illustration by CJ Sommerfeld

able to see patterns of the type of metal I liked listening to. I hadn't gotten into black metal, or intense screaming just yet. Rather, not that genres are super important, accurate, or the end all be all, but generally the songs would mostly fit into the progressive metal category. This helped me find similar bands and music, which broadened my taste even more.

Personally, I think it helps that I started with less aggressive metal to slowly work my way into it. If you have any artists you like in general who have made metal themselves or worked with a metal band, that could be a good way to dip your toes in. Polyphia and Cuco did that for me. Then other softer songs such as "1252" by Good Tiger (though, they may not be metal but they were on the metal playlist).

From there I began listening to Spiritbox's "Blessed Be," and "Real"—and

additionally "Abandoned" by Unprocessed, the latter of which Polyphia featured on. I had heard of Dance Gavin Dance from Tumblr when I was very young, but the name stuck with me, so I decided to look it up. They sound like the harder version of my favourite music—2000s alt rock—thus, I currently listen to them the most. "Uneasy Hearts Weigh the Most," "Prisoner," "Son of Robot," and "Death of a Strawberry" are great. Then, having already liked Spiritbox's "Blessed Be," I was able to begin enjoying much heavier music, such as their "Holy Roller."

It's honestly a journey to get into metal—it takes time, effort, and patience—but it's definitely worth it. The genre has some incredibly unique and talented musicians that it would be a waste not to at least try.

Best meme songs that seriously slap

› You can't rickroll me if it's my favourite song

Janis McMath
Editor-in-Chief

Daler Mehndi - Tunak Tunak Tun

The rest of this list is in no particular order, but this song is undoubtedly number one. The song, the energy, the dancing, and the outfits all make this song the absolutely iconic piece of musical history it has become. On YouTube, the official video has 158 million views—not counting all the eyes on the parody videos that were all the rage in 2005 when the song officially blew up as a meme.

It gained a lot of popularity in the 2000s, but the song was originally made in 1998 and *already* had legendary status in India; Daler Mehndi used the song as a clever middle finger to all his critics that said his popularity as a musician hinged on the fact that he had beautiful women in his videos. In retaliation, Mehndi's music video used CGI to feature four versions of himself wearing different fabulous monochromatic outfits. You can tell he's having a good time in his video; you can't help but love him. This song is without a doubt his biggest, but he's got many other high-energy-party-till-you-die beats. I would recommend "Ho Jayegi Balle Balle," "Bolo Ta Ra Ra," "Na Na Na Re," and "Saade Dil Te Chhuriyan." The videos are similarly fabulous and full of fun and humour. Also, to all those monolingual

people in the same boat as me that are curious as to what "Tunak Tunak Tun" means, it's an onomatopoeia for the sound a tumbi makes—a traditional Punjabi instrument.

Rick Astley - Never Gonna Give You Up

Let's learn the etymology of the term "rickrolling"! Like the history of many things on the internet, this origin story begins on the message boards of 4chan. The creator of 4chan—"moot"—made it so whenever someone would post the word "egg" on the website, it would come up instead as "duck." When people would discuss their delicious Chinese dinners, eggroll would become duckroll. So, duckroll became the coined term for this prank of misdirection, and an image of a duck on wheels was used by pranksters. In the historic year of 2007, rickrolling was born; a 4chan user claimed to be sharing a trailer of *Grand Theft Auto IV* but instead linked readers to the 1987 award winning single. When this prank gained traction, rickroll was based on the aforementioned term duckroll—and now you know some useless trivia for your next party!

Oh, and did anyone in your life care about you enough to tell you that Rick Astley is hot now? His voice has gained more of an edge but is still as clean as ever—AND it has an added sultry tone. His voice is seriously *way* better now. You'll probably take his offer for love, protection,

and care seriously this time. If you'd like to see the babe in action, check out his 2018 cover of his renown song with Choir! Choir! on YouTube.

Rebecca Black - Friday and Alison Gold - Chinese Food

Both of these very topic-specific bangers serve the perfect purpose as that song you always listen to when you do the activity related to it. Just as the song "Celebration" by Kool & The Gang gets an obligatory play at any graduation party, "Friday" and "Chinese food" get an obligatory play when I'm enjoying either. Sure, both of these songs get a lot of flak for being particularly stupid (credit to

the lyrics "Tomorrow is Saturday/ And Sunday comes afterwards") but if you're looking for intelligent commentary in fun pop music, you might be the stupid one. The beats slap, the topics are universally relatable, and both are so dumb they're actually absolutely brilliant. Both songs were also produced by the same group.

The Moscow Kremlin Choir - Russian National Anthem

This song has got me feeling patriotic in all kinds of ways. It just rouses the soul into a "battle for the homeland" kind of mood. We can see where the *Super Smash Bros.* game got the inspiration for their soundtracks.

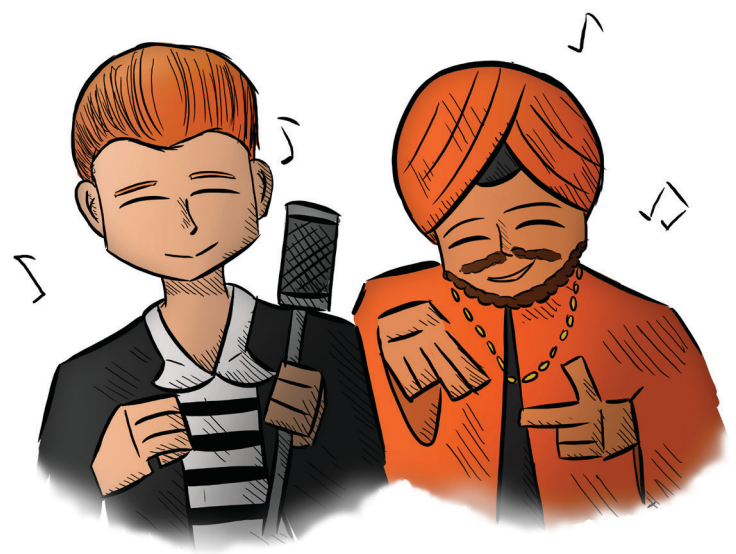


Illustration by Athena Little

Pretty and soft music for boring, rainy November

› Cuffing season music is in full swing



Photo by Arnaldo Fragozo

Sonam Kaloti
Arts Editor

When I think of November, I think about cold, rain, and flirting. For all three of those things, I listen to the same music. November's all about being by yourself but crushing on someone hard. Feeling butterflies while being lulled by the gloomy outside weather (specifically the pitter patter of rain on your window) as you dreamily wonder on "what if?"

I could list Frank Ocean for this entire list, but everyone already knows that! (If you haven't listened to *Endless* though, you are gravely missing out.) Instead, here's some lesser known but deserving musicians.

Cuco

Cuco's voice is the smoothest thing to hear, apart from his music itself. My favourite from him that fits the bill is "Lover Is a Day." The nearly eight-minute song goes on for so long that it fully submerges you into its dreamy atmosphere.

The lyrics, "Made my life harder lying 'bout the stupid shit I say / Then you wouldn't know a single thing about how I feel about you / And all those really dumb things people feel," explain the feeling of crushing with the added pressure of trying to present your best self.

Another beauty is "Amor de Siempre," a shorter song, but just slow enough to feel like you're floating. I can just hear the song with a rainy background track. The best part is that the vocals are in Spanish—truly the language of the hopeless romantic.

EDEN

EDEN's entire discography can be described as gloomy

heartache. His album *i think you think too much of me*, while older, is drenched in this November aura of sitting by the window while checking your phone for texts too often. "Sex" is the first song on the album, and it speaks volumes to this feeling with the lyrics "And we're just having sex, no, I would never call it love / But love / Oh no, I think I'm catching feelings." Ah, now that moment is classic.

Alvvays

Indie pop has never sounded better. Alvvays sounds you're hearing them play out of a forest already, so that floating feeling is alvvays there (pun intended, of course). The instruments and vocals have a lot of reverb, but they are more specifically delay-heavy. Big chorus, flanging, and other funky filters make Alvvays an exciting band to listen to. Each instrument on its own is incredibly heavy, but it's so far back in the mix that their sound remains extremely soft and nearly angelic.

The beginning to "Adult Diversion" goes, "How do I get close to you? / Even if you don't notice as I admire you on the subway," which sets the tone for the rest of their self-titled album.

Just one song is hard to recommend since all of their music is perfect for this mood, but to start, "Adult Diversion," "Archie, Marry Me," and "Dreams Tonite," are fantastically heart wrenching in the most comforting way.

Let November guide you with indie pop heartache, and mellow RnB walks in puddles. Have fun this cuffing season but know when to feel out your feelings through music instead of cuffing whoever's close. (I promise you're going to want someone who's not going to leave before Christmas, because where's the fun in that? Get those extra presents!)

- The history of poutine
- Interview with Danielle Adams: seasonal tree planter
- Autumn leaf photo story
- ...and more

DINGUSES AND DRAGONS: SETTING THE TABLE FOR AN EPIC ADVENTURE

› The importance of establishing setting in your D&D campaign

Jacey Gibb
Distribution Manager

Welcome to Dinguses and Dragons, a weekly column aiming at demystifying and introducing the game of D&D to new and potential players

Whether you're playing a premade campaign or forging your path with a homebrewed one, the importance of a good setting should never be overlooked. A story's setting has a ripple effect on every other aspect, so let's explore some of those ripples.

When your party arrives at a new destination, it's important to brainstorm enough about the location to set up or allude to future sessions. If the party is visiting a remote mountain village, prepare a few tidbits from the village's history. What's the most prominent race living there? Is there a particular reason why this village exists here rather than on another mountain range? Did this used to be a bustling blue-collar town before the mine closed, and now there's a sense of gloom? Is the mine sealed off, or could your party potentially explore it? You don't have to open a whole history book, but thinking of key characteristics about the setting will help it feel more established and authentic to your players.

Working out a backstory and context beforehand is important, but also be open to improvisation from both yourself and your players. If the party gets to a city, and they ask about something you didn't think of preparing (say, a battle arena) just go with it. Players are more engaged when they feel like they're contributing to the overall story, and this includes the campaign setting.

The website *donjon* has a random town generator that's perfect for getting started in a new city. You can modify things like town size, where the city is located (grassland, arctic, forest, etc.) if it's along a coast or has a river flowing through it, and it'll even provide you with a map. If that wasn't enough, the generator also provides "notable places" for the players to visit and some non-player characters (NPCs) for them to interact with. Even if you don't like certain parts of the generated town, you can cherry-pick your favourites and ditch everything else.

Where your story takes place will also affect the types of combat and enemies the party encounters. If they're in an urban setting, they're more likely to face humanoids or organized groups. In the wilderness, animals or other monsters can be their go-to foes. If they're in a city, are they trying to maintain a low

profile, or is there a specific reason why they've come to this town? Are they looking for someone or something in particular? Even the transition between cities can be the setting if players encounter highway bandits or mysterious strangers looking for help. Tailoring your combat situations to the different settings will also keep them diverse and interesting.

(Side note: I mentioned traveling between locations in the previous paragraph. In real life traveling between cities or regions would take days—especially if the party is traveling by foot—but D&D

isn't real-life. If there are important plot points or character growth you want to see before the next city, spend part of your session "traveling." Otherwise, skip the between time and start with them arriving at the new location.)

Changing up your setting can also breathe new life into a campaign. If your party's been in the same city or region for a while, come up with a new hook or reason for them to depart. Exposing your party to new situations, characters, and conflicts can spice things up and keep players invested.



Illustration by Janis McMath

The history of poutine

› A Canadian classic

Brandon Yip
Senior Columnist

Poutine was invented in Quebec in the 1950s, although its actual origins remain a contentious issue. Several restaurants in Quebec claimed and boasted to be the sole inventors of this delicious and tasty Canadian staple.

Charles-Alexandre Théorêt, author of the 2007 book, *Maudite Poutine!* states two cities in Quebec—Warwick, and Drummondville—have very believable stories about being the ones who invented poutine. “Poutine is the new fast-food queen, you know. It was invented in rural Quebec in the mid ’50s. We don’t know, we will never know [who the original inventor was],” Théorêt said in a CBC segment called *We Are The Best*.

For the most part, poutine is a simple dish. Yes, you all know what it looks like: hot fries laced with cheese curds on top, and then smothered with delicious gravy! And it is especially even more enjoyable during a cold winter evening or when craving a late-night snack. Théorêt says poutine has to be made a certain way for it to be perfect: “Crispy fries, thick, and tasty gravy, and of course the cheese. It needs to be squeaky; you need to hear it to taste it.” In contrast, French-Canadian singer, Mitsou, is not a fan of the Quebec delicacy, telling the CBC in a 1991 interview that poutine looked disgusting to her. She also said it reminded her of “the stuff that we got in our nose.” So much for her being the poster girl for the product!

Interestingly, the origins of the word “poutine” have some asserting that it is related to the English word “pudding.” Yet a more popular etymology is that it is derived from a Quebecois slang term meaning “mess.” Oh, and what a delightful “mess” it is! Also, poutine is included in the Merriam-Webster dictionary and is defined as “chiefly Canada”—with the definition stating that it is “a dish of French fries covered with brown gravy and cheese curds.”

Furthermore, in 2007 the *New York Times* wrote about poutine’s growing popularity—referring to it as the newest favourite dish in the Big Apple. Even the late Anthony Bourdain filmed an episode focused on poutine for his show *No Reservations* when he visited Montreal. Bourdain visited pouterie La Banquise, where he ate five plates of poutine. “Meat, cheese, and fries—all on one fork. I feel so dirty, yet so alive. It’s like forbidden love,” he said. “I feel guilty eating any of these.”

Notably, one place that serves pretty decent poutine—and you may be surprised that they do—is Costco. Normally, Costco would be the last place foodies would go to replenish their poutine pallet. But at their food court, Costco serves their usual hot dogs, fries, pizza, chicken fingers, and drinks—but also included in their menu is poutine, which costs under \$5.

Remarkably, Costco poutine is being shown some love online. Katie Machado, in her October 2020 article published on *The Travel* website about fast-food poutine, offers high praise for Costco poutine: “Due



Photo by Billy Bui

to its overwhelming presence on Reddit in terms of poutine and how often it’s mentioned as one of the best in a hurry. According to those on Reddit, Costco knocks it out of the park with their offering and, not to mention, it’s likely one of the largest servings out of any other on the list which, in terms of french fry to cheese ratio and weight, that’s a hefty lead.”

Lastly, I have ordered Costco poutine many times and it is surprisingly very decent. The portions are generous for what you pay for. The fries are hot and fresh, and

the cheese curds are abundant—and the gravy laced on top is the crowning touch. It makes for a very tasty and filling meal. Like McDonald’s fries, you should eat Costco poutine immediately. Reheating it in the microwave the next day will lose much of its original quality and taste. Throwing it into the garbage may be a wise decision. So, the next time you are at Costco, order their poutine. It may not taste like the poutine made in Quebec, but it is a decent substitute. Trust me, you won’t regret it.

Birthdays: yet another strange day

› The slow single climb towards back pain

Matthew Fraser
Opinions Editor

It’s almost that day again. That day that comes once a year for all of us to commemorate our own emergence into the sunlight. Well, I’m talking about my annual trip around the sun. Indeed, I have managed to brave the tribulations of the past year, skirt the horrors of the lockdown, and best starvation using only frozen pizza and assorted cereals. I have successfully survived and shall add another number to the string of digits that denote my age-rank. Yet, this year there will be less fanfare than normal, no drinks, no parties, and no group shenanigans. Just some words plastered on the inside of a screen, against the white pixelated background of a Facebook wall.

I realized while I was talking to my mom the other day that all these numbers have blended together. I mean, I know that I’m 20-whatever, but I don’t know which 20-something I’m becoming. I recall that this year’s digit is greater than last year’s, but the specific number eludes me. I remember being 18 and thinking I’d never feel back pains, and like everything I thought, I was wrong. I have decided to blame coronavirus gluing me to this seat and confining me to a slow rotation between my couch, bed, and computer chair (did I tell you this before?) for any twinge in my spinal column. I promise it’s not that I’m old now. This life thing happens so slowly you’d think it isn’t happening at all and then you realize it’s been done to you. Like watching rain turn into puddles and then puddles grow into swamps. It’s just another strange day in an

equally strange week as the strange world spins on its axis.

Pretty soon, everyone in Canada will have experienced their own birthday during the lockdown; a few people may have experienced two. Isn’t that something? The penumbra of COVID-19 has embedded itself into the horizon of our lives so thoroughly that the banalities (or electricities) of a birthday have slipped from our minds to a forgotten realm like old teddy bears and favorite T-shirts. Happiest date of birth to you indeed.

Will we have a cake for coronavirus this year or next? We must be careful to keep the party a secret, you know how much COVID likes surprises. I hope I’m invited to the party; I promise I’ll give a nice speech about how much COVID has changed my life. I hope you get invited too; we can go halvesies on a present, save a little coin ‘cause we probably both need it. It’ll be you, me, and everyone else, singing songs and swaying gently—six feet apart of course—we’ll take turns lifting our masks to eat the cake and we won’t linger in place for more than 25 minutes. Separate entrance and exits with hand wash stations galore.

I never much cared about my one day in one month that comes every year. I suppose I didn’t get enough presents as a child, or maybe I was just so special every single day that no day felt all that different from the last. This day will be even less exciting than usual. Maybe I’ll treat myself to a grilled cheese sandwich and a couple of donuts. I’ll stand outside and let the sun warm my face too. I think I deserve it this year.

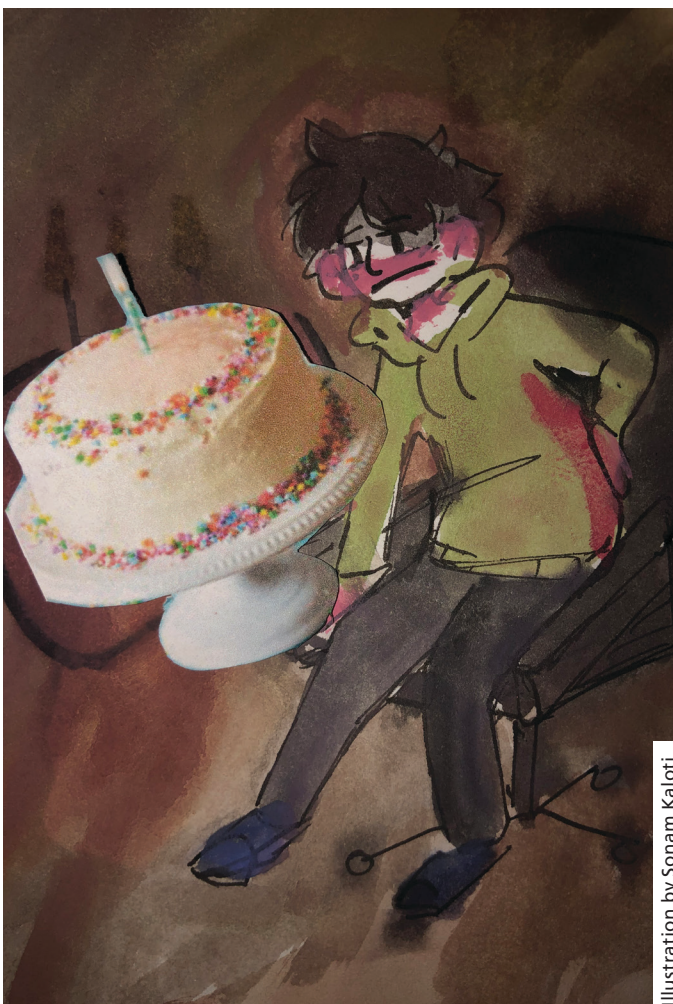


Illustration by Sonam Kaloti

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Despite the fact that Canada was in the war from the beginning, our country has not memorialized the stories of the war with the same fervour as their allied counterparts.



This year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II; it is considered one of the most notable moments in human history. The United States, Britain, France, and even Germany have made documentaries and autobiographies to tell the story of the men who came home—and the men who were lost forever. However, there is a blind spot in Canada. This country has fought in some of the most important battles in the war like the Battle of Ortona in the Italian Campaign; despite this, and the fact that Canada was in the war from the beginning, our country has not memorialized the stories of the war with the same fervour as their allied counterparts. Historian Tim Cook, author of *The Fight for History: 75 Years of Forgetting, Remembering, and Remaking Canada's Second World War*, also notes this lack of memorialization.

One of the people whose story has not been told is my grandfather, James Watson Sr. Recently, my family discovered a storage bin that was filled with items from my grandfather's military past. With these artifacts and the internet, I have pieced together what my grandfather's service was and what his contribution may have been in Canada's often

forgotten conflict.

James Watson Sr. was born in Montreal in 1917, and as he grew up through the roaring '20s and the great depression, he found his way into sports, having a passion for hockey and baseball—which gave him the chance to play for the Baltimore Orioles triple A baseball team in 1934. In 1939, when he was only 22 years old, the world found itself going back to war. From a Naval Training and Active Service form, I discovered that he began training for the Navy on September 17, 1940 and entered into active service by November of the same year. From this point, he served on the HMCS Hochelaga which was based in Montreal and supplied help to corvette ships. One of those ships was the HMCS Drumheller which is where Watson would find himself serving for the majority of the war.

The Drumheller's role was to escort other ships safely along the Atlantic corridor between the Newfoundland town of Avalon and the Irish town of Londonderry. From this point, it's hard to tell how long he was on the ship—as the Active Service sheet is a bit illegible—but he could have been on it until October 30, 1944. This time would have included a

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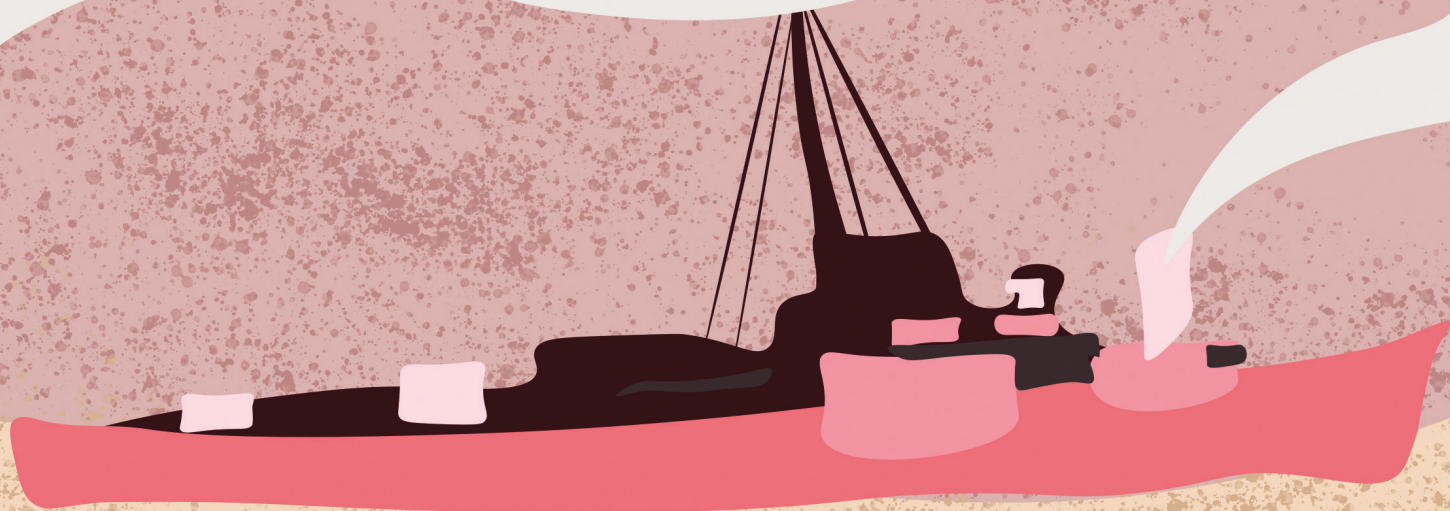
In 1939, when he [my grandfather] was only 22 years old, the world found itself going back to war.



WORLD WAR II STORY: GRANDFATHER, JAMES WATSON

> Piecing together the story of my
grandfather's military service

Craig Allan
Staff Writer



battle in September of 1943 where six merchant ships and three escort corvettes were lost. Another incident that occurred when he was likely serving was an assistance in the Battle of Normandy on June 6, 1944. From a long leave request form, I also found that he was stationed in Plymouth, England at some point. Unfortunately, the document is undated. It is possible that during this time he may have found his way to London as he left behind a card detailing the location of the American Eagle Club, near Piccadilly Circus in London.

From January 31 in 1943 to June 8, 1945, the Active Service sheet says the word "Niobe." From researching, there is no town named Niobe listed, and that the word has something to do with a Greek God. It was the name of some ships, but none of these ships saw service after World War I. There are also brackets indicating that these could still be the Drumheller, but I cannot be sure. There are also the words "Peregrine" and another word that is hard to read out. It seems that my grandfather was part of the war a little over a year after it started, and ended his service just before the war ended, with the last stamp dated August 27, 1945.

Another clue into his service comes from the medals he received. The five medals he received are as followed. The 1939-1945 Star for "six months service on active operations for Army and Navy," according to Veterans Affairs Canada. The Atlantic Star for "six months of service afloat an Atlantic Navy ship." It also has a bar on the ribbon stating that it was in service during the France and Germany campaign. Next there is the Defense Medal.

This one is a little harder to designate, but according the Veterans Affairs Canada it states: "Although the medal was usually awarded to Canadians for six months service in Britain between September 3 1939 and May 8 1945, the exact terms were: 'Service in the forces in non-operational areas subjected to air attack or closely threatened, providing such service lasted for three or more years. Service overseas or outside the country of residence, providing that such service lasted for one year, except in territories threatened by the enemy or subject to bomb attacks, in which case it was six months prior to September 2 1945.'" It also includes service done in Newfoundland, which at the time was not a Canadian province. The next medal is the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal which was "granted to persons of any rank in the Naval, Military, or Air Forces of Canada who voluntarily served on Active Service and honourably completed eighteen months total voluntary service from September 3, 1939 to March 1, 1947." The final medal is the War Medal 1939-1945, given to any Navy veteran who served 28 days at sea.

After the war, James Watson started a family with his wife Margaret—and she gave birth to their three sons and daughter. James Jr., Clifford, Ronald, and my mother, Margaret. From the looks of the documents, he was involved with the war for over five years. Who knows what kind of stories and adventures he experienced? Hopefully, this article has helped colour a little more of the story of one man's fantastic journey through life.

This piece is dedicated to my uncle Cliff. Rest in peace. I love you.



search or w

AUTUMN Leaf PHOTO S



Dear Santa,

We have no idea how we got here; it's November and the leaves are changing colours. I only have a blurry image of how this year went. A month ago, we had plans and new year resolutions for the upcoming decade. A week ago, we were not allowed to pet random dogs on the streets, dine in at our favourite restaurants, and give high fives to our best buddies.

A day ago, it was 35 degrees, and we were trying so hard to keep a six-foot distance from the hottest people in swimsuits crossing us at the beach. A minute ago, it became compulsory to dress up as ninjas to get on the bus and almost everywhere else. A minute ago, we had to get away from the Netflix queue for Halloween candies. A second ago, we were laughing at the US election as if it were the year 2016 all over again.

Now, we are just dreaming about all the great presents we have a slight chance to receive this Christmas, which is coming right after you wake up. If there were only one thing on our wish-list (besides the 6000-piece Lego set of Hogwarts castle), it would be that things were normal again. That's the one we have been talking about since March. We can conclude that not all new things are better—just look at the iPhone 12 (even though we decided to send each of us one). All of us have been extremely nice this year, so if you could go ahead and make our wish come true, that would be great.

Cheers,
Agent Jenny

website name



TORY

› Check out these beautiful November scenes

By Nhi 'Jenny' Vo, Production Assistant



Photo by Billy Bui



Photos by Nhi 'Jenny' Vo

month ago, we were making
our favourite ramen places,
the beach. An hour ago,
k couch to buy ourselves
finish reading this letter. If
the old normal, not the new
e would not mind if you
ould be great.



Interview with Danielle Adams: seasonal tree planter

› A glimpse into the world of tree planting in the forests of the Pacific Northwest

Alexis Zygan
Contributor

For three months of the year, tree planters venture outside of the city limits to immerse themselves in nature. The work is physically demanding and not for the easily fatigued or in poor health. Tree planting is an escape from the commotion, claustrophobic city streets, and toxic air quality—an ideal fit for those who longingly gaze at the mountains lurking behind glass skyscrapers. Tree planting can be an excellent opportunity to get paid to work in nature if you are willing to exert yourself for 12 hours a day in the frigid rainstorms.

Danielle Adams is entering her fourth season as a tree planter this upcoming May and is following her aunt's footsteps. After her first year of university, Adams considered guiding bike tours in France as a summer job. Instead, she found herself in Ontario planting trees. Although her laidback mindset did not result in significant earnings, the company provided all necessary equipment at a discounted wholesale price, which can be a hefty cost for those starting. "I met some phenomenal people and figured out how to plant and make money. It was very satisfying to quantify every movement and decision to cents while pushing my body past its point. I have an interesting yet twisted relationship with planting. At the end of the day, if you are not making money, the job is brutal."

Tree planters can expect to pay around \$25 a day for room and board when cohabiting. "Before I knew about tree planting, I wanted to try it out, which is stupid because had I known what it was I probably would not have wanted to do it right away, but I still ended up loving it anyway." As a young kid, a group of dirty people radiating a free spirit walked past her, sharing that they were heading to Salmon Arm to work as tree planters for the season. At that point, she heard that tree planting could make you a lot of money. She went into it, expecting \$10 per tree. Realistically, depending on the contract, tree planters get paid between 8 to 19 cents per tree planted. The pay depends on the land condition, factors like if the terrain is steeper,

covered in debris, roots have been pre-pulled to form trenches, or if a prescribed burning was conducted by farmers. "In Williams Lake, there is not much schnarb [slang for crappy land], fallen logs, or decrepit debris, which makes a more straightforward process for planting more trees. The land is cheaper, but you can plant a lot more so you can still make good money in a day. I am by no means a high-baller; I am a happy mid-baller; a good day is about 2200 to 2500 trees. Some of my buddies put in 3000 in the daily and make really good money." After working in the bush through spring and summer, Adams lives in the city until

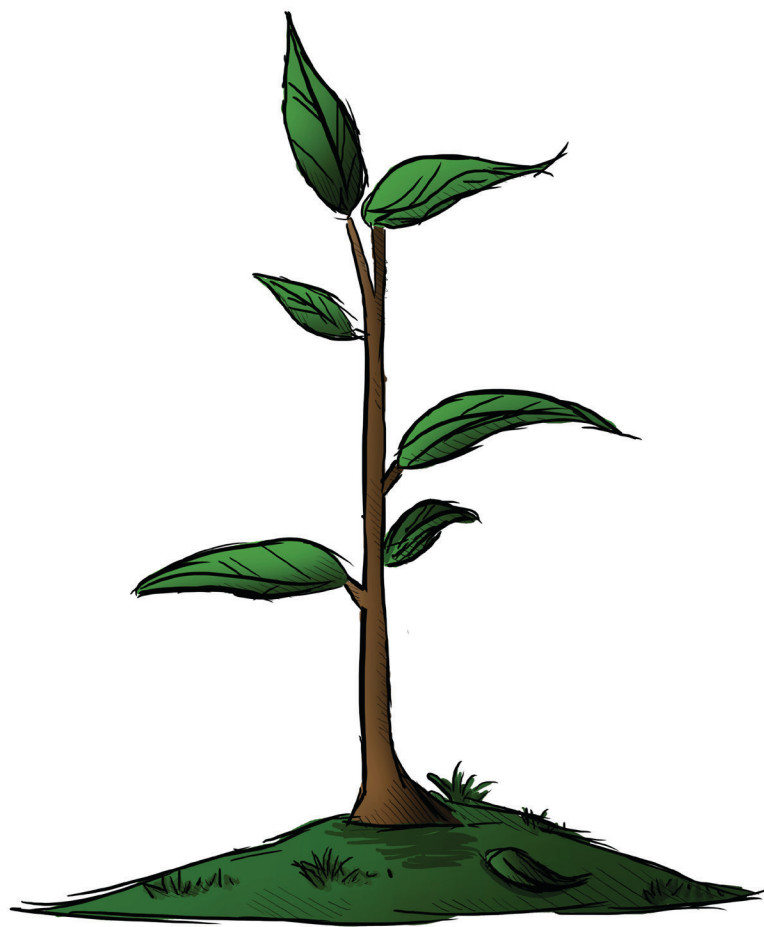


Illustration by Athena Little

the next season.

There are so many different reasons to plant trees and hire planters. Tree planting is not inherently a green career—although Adams considers herself to be an environmentalist. "A logging company employs me. There are a lot of contracts where you can get paid by Forest Forever to plant trees for reforestation and carbon offsets." Trudeau spoke of an initiative to use the profit from Trans Mountain Pipeline to plant two billion trees over a decade. However, *Nelsons News* reports that the Liberal government has yet to include this expense in their 2030 budget.

While planting in her first year in Ontario, they prepared the land by spraying chemicals. This is one of the several ecologically destructive practices used by the forestry industry. "You are replanting trees because there is actually a law in Canada that every tree harvested needs to put back. I ain't no expert as I have a degree in illustration not forestry. Sometimes you are not planting the best tree for that area—maybe there are better ways to manage the forests and change how we do resource extractions," she said.

Adams' athletic background means that emotional strength is her most significant obstacle. "There are not many things in this world that have made me cry but planting is one of them. I struggle with pushing myself to be better, faster, and stronger mentally." On bad days she feels herself internally spiraling downwards. She lets out the waterworks, followed by a cathartic thunderous howl. "You feel this emotion wash over, then you get back up and keep planting." The job demands long periods spent alone with your thoughts in the forest—a self-trust mindset is vital for those who want to succeed in this industry. During the summer season, tree planters encounter wasps that nest in the trees and return home with a myriad of bruises and stings. Hearing coworkers echo your screams of agony from the painful pricks kilometers away certainly makes you feel less alone.

Tree planting has given Adams a sense of freedom she could never achieve back in the city, and lasting friendships from cohabiting over the seasons. "When you are living with 60 to 70 other people, you eat and drink together. You form connections you do not make in the city as quickly."

Working outside is another one of the perks. Adams has felt herself grow as a person from living beyond societal pressures. "Body hair is a good example. Growing up in the city, women who have body hair are either protesting the patriarchy or are an unshaven mess. I began to see these women as beautiful and empowered in the bush, both feminine and strong." When Adams returns home at the end of the summer, she reminisces on the memories of good times from the bush and looks forward to the next season. "You never remember how much it hurts; you only remember all the good times."

“

website name



Photos by Danielle Adams

There are not many things in this world that have made me cry but planting is one of them.

OPINIONS

- What I did on election nights
- Costumed controversy
- Retrain your brain to stop craving luxury goods
- ...and more

Talking with two Trump supporters

› Trump could have won—it's about time we take his supporters seriously

Matthew Fraser
Opinions Editor

I wasn't interested in politics until about 2015; most people my age probably didn't care about politics until then. I remember thinking it was interesting that Obama was the first black president, but I had no special feelings about him. Maybe that was a by-product of age, I was 15 at the time and more interested in getting a starting position on my high school football team than who would be the leader of the free world. Things changed when Donald Trump began his presidential bid. I started to care because the rhetoric was so egregious and to me, distasteful. At that time, I was a bit further to the left (or at least enamoured with "woke" politics) than I am now and certainly unable to understand how anyone could be a Trump supporter. However, travel will introduce you to people you wouldn't imagine being friends with and Facebook makes the world smaller than you had thought it could be.

There's a Trump supporter (lets call him Ryan) I know from a gym we both went to years ago. In all honesty, if we had met face-to-face more than twice in our lives I would be shocked, yet in spite of years of bickering and ad hominem attacks, Ryan and I never unfriended each other on Facebook (though I was tempted to a hundred times or more). I don't claim to share Ryan's opinions, but after the abysmal performance of Joe Biden, coupled with my dislike for the old man, it's clear to me that the Democrats have lost touch with the majority of people and have built a stonewall of terrible ideas around their lack of platform. Though Ryan and I may not see eye-to-eye, I have become good friends with a former Trump supporter and UBC alumni who I am calling Gonzalo. We started our friendship drunkenly arguing about Trump and his cabinet in a South Korean hostel a scant three months after Trump won the 2016 election. People who don't talk to former or current Trump supporters need to know that the "orange man bad" narrative is tired and near death. Polls that predicted a Biden sweep were as wrong (or worse) in 2020 as they were 2016. Somebody has to say that Trump is popular because the opposition sucks. The question is whether the Democratic party will rebuild itself into something that reaches the masses and doesn't spawn Trump successors or slip further into the sleepy centrism that made Trump possible.

A lot of us love liberal ideas, yet seldom do we consider whether those ideas are good or even applicable to all. I asked Ryan what drove him to Trump and his response was simple: "Well, political correctness (PC) and being force-fed bad ideas while at the same time being told how to think and what not to say is a good

start." Though his definition of PC is certainly different than mine, I can't pretend as if it's not true that the box of acceptable ideas and statements has shrunk as the years go by. Recently, political commentator Saagar Enjeti pointed out that when people disparage socialism and the left, they are actually talking about cultural liberalism. He sees this critique as people showing how much they despise woke politics. Though Ryan went on to describe the Democratic party as "Marxist progressive" (which is laughable to those on the left), Gonzalo built on the point by saying: "Trump supporters have many reasons for being where they are. Instead, it's important to look at the underlying issues that caused them to support Trump since it's easy to forget that many of the same people that voted for Obama previously, later voted for Trump." Here, Edison research polls agree, showing that 82 percent of Trump voters put the economy as top priority and Ryan himself stated that Trump's "businessman-like competence," economic progress, plus the fact that he did not start a new war have continued his support.

Gonzalo went from supporting Obama to Trump to Buttigieg, a thought process he explained by saying: "I was a steadfast supporter of moderate neoliberal ideals. Trump on the other hand was a maverick for me. He was able to campaign in a manner that no other politician had been able to campaign. Not to mention his position on China and North Korea was what really made me support him." Though Gonzalo's support for neoliberalism breaks my revolutionary heart, Ryan agrees in part with the idea that Trump's 2016 campaign was beneficial to the world: "Donald Trump is not just the leader of the United States, but of Western civilization [...]. As a Canadian I view the success of the United States as pivotal to the success of Western civilization [...]. NATO countries like Canada not paying their fair share when it comes to its defence commitments [impacts me directly]. The Trump administration worked on this issue and thus strengthened the collective defence of Western civilization through NATO."

The most common slander used against Trump has always been that he is a racist. I was particularly interested in their responses for two reasons: one, Gonzalo is a Latino, so should have a more nuanced thought on this; and two, I have previously accused Ryan of being a racist myself. Gonzalo's opinion was the most illuminating: "It seemed more like attempts

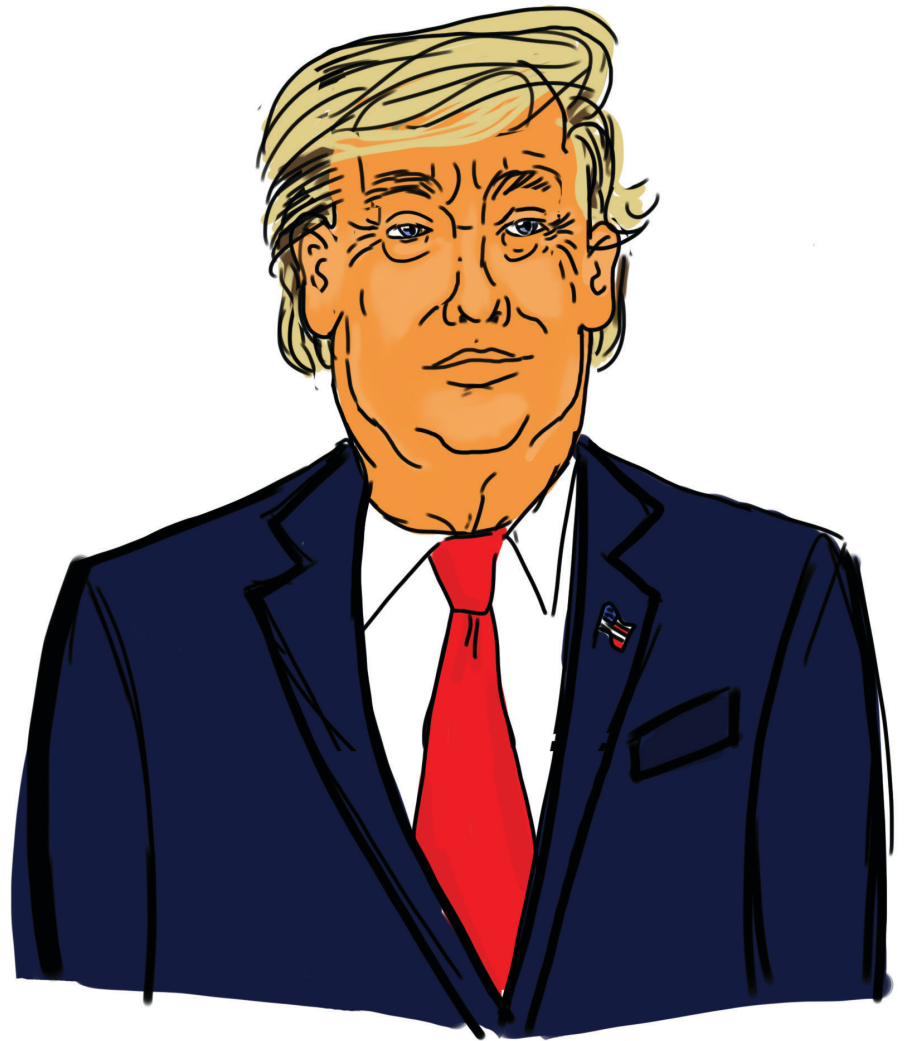


Illustration by Janis McMath

to smear him and use race as a way to divide opinion against him. It felt as if I had to vote a certain way because of my race and that was more infuriating than what was brought up against him."

I have never—and by all indications will never—supported Donald Trump, however, I have noticed this type of race-determined vote rhetoric constantly. Too many people are too comfortable declaring that [insert demographic] belongs to one party or another when the reality is that no group is a monolith and people can tell when they won't get better results by voting the way their parents did. Ryan predicted that Trump would do better with minority demographics, and according to polls, Trump only did worse with white men versus improvements with all other demographics; as to accusations of racism, Ryan stated simply that: "I feel like the people who play the R (race) card are people who most likely are losing a debate. Yes, racism exists, but I don't see evidence of this in Trump." My personal contentions aside, if the 70-or-so million Americans who voted for Trump were all racists, America would have many more hate crimes than it currently does. I certainly believe that there are racists who support Trump, but it's more likely to me that the two-party system is failing everyone than it is that there are tens of millions of rabid racists in the country.

Finally, I asked both men how they thought the election would go and any chance of post-election violence. Ryan gave the expected response that the elections seem rigged and that: "Both sides are capable of extreme violence

but so far most of the riots have come from the left; I haven't seen a Trump riot yet." Gonzalo, however, felt differently, saying that although there hasn't been a Belfast moment yet, "I am worried that if something isn't done soon, the country will slowly begin to break down. As for who will cause the most damage, far-right groups are the most likely [...]. FBI reports already state that they are a growing threat to the US. Given their access to firearms, inhibition to follow conspiracy theories, and general anger towards the other side, they are likely to be a major issue after the election regardless of the results." From my point-of-view, it's undeniable that the left has been in the streets willingly destroying things, but the type of violence to come will vary between the groups. Altercations stemming from leftist mobs are more frequent, but I think that the right is more likely to kill innocent people through "lone wolf" terrorism.

Political elites on the left, and even you the reader, need to realize that Trumpism is not going away. He spoke to people for more reasons than just a shared disdain for the poor minority. In fact, after Trump's four years in office, 56 percent of Americans thought they were better off than before, according to an Gallup survey from last month. Throwing our support behind the emaciated corpse of Joe Biden and the neoliberal shapeshifter known as Kamala Harris will only garner us a more powerful despot later down the road. The goal needs to be making parties that actually help the people, instead of mud slinging at the "other" side.

Listening to another culture's music grants you its society

› A look into what I think is the perfect medium for both art and knowledge

CJ Sommerfeld
Staff Writer

When chatting with someone whose age or ethnicity differs from your own, you can gain understandings about those differing components of their life if they have grown up in that culture. Such cultural exposure can give you the vicarious experience of being in a different geological location, and encountering different economic, political, and sociological systems than those you are accustomed to. The same exposure can happen when listening to another culture's or time period's music. Music can transport us across the globe and through time to give us a look at where it came from and how it came to be.

While the internet gives us immediate access to an abundance of information, how much of that has been contributed by reliable sources? Most databases that hold true scholarly content are often safe-guarded and are not accessible by all. And, although some would label these resources as the most reliable information, do academics really

know all? As for the remainder of the internet, anyone can contribute anything. How accurately can historical cultural phenomena and other components of societies be represented via this platform?

In my opinion, something similar can also be said about books. When reading history books, I am always weary of the fact that the people who wrote and published the book included content to curate a certain perspective. No matter how objective a person attempts to make their work, I think it is inevitable that they create something that includes bits of the author's shaped biases. Although there are historians who devote their lives to a pinpointed era or group of peoples, I do not think that anything can provide us with more accurate and concise information than an artifact from such a time or culture—like music.

Now, while not all music from the past has survived, the music which has helps serve as a window into the historical period which it is from. These musical time capsules include the social dynamics and economics that occurred; the reason why the song was made, the lyrics that were

intended to be projected, and the materials used, all hint to something beyond the sound of the tune.

Many call-and-response tunes—also called work songs or field hollers, emerged from slaves in the Southern United States. These songs often developed organically as a means of making the accompanying unpleasant and labourious jobs more enjoyable. The roots of hip-hop, jazz, and blues similarly pinpoint historical anguish. These styles came to be due in no small part to the repressed social groups which African American peoples were forced into. When listening to the first tunes that created each of these genres, it is hard not to hear the heart-wrenching passion. I think that this misery-induced emotion was vital in making these new sounds and genres distinct from the European-American styles that were also growing in the United States during that time. I do not think an online article or book could fully cover or explore the topic as well as these songs can.

When we look back to the Middle Ages in Europe, a great deal of all the surviving music is religiously didactic—

that is, songs were composed to project religious texts. By adding instrumentation and harmonics to text, composers made their words more vivid. I assume the intention of this musicality was to increase a person's faith, since religious and political systems were greatly intertwined for much of history (and still is in some places today). Plainchant, a medieval style of song, was sung slowly to maximize the clarity of the texts; additionally, many words were repeated over and over again, likely for the same reason. In listening to these sorts of melodies, it is evident that religion had a strong influence in guiding the arts. In overseeing the medieval sorts of taxes, often only religion was able to commission composers and musicians to create such melodies. While there may have been much more secular music than what has survived, we will likely never know. What can be told about these ages, however, is that religion ruled all.

The above thoughts are only a select few out of the tornado of ideas in my brain regarding this topic. The remainder of which, part 2, will be available in next week's issue.



Illustration by Sonam Kaloti

Costumed controversy

› When is a costume racist?

Jeffery Gladstone
Contributor

2020 has been a year of reflection. Specifically, reflections on what we consider acceptable and offensive in society. Earlier this year, there was a reckoning in the television world for episodes of people portraying blackface. With the entertainment world having such a vitriolic reaction to their previous portrayals of blackface it poses a question: is all representation of blackface inappropriate or is there wiggle room?

Why is blackface wrong, but whiteface, like the Wayans Brothers' movie *White Chicks* or Dave Chappelle on *The Chappelle Show* isn't? Some will argue that whiteface is fine because it's satire. However, I don't believe this argument is on equal ground because I don't think a white person dressing in blackface today for satirical reasons could do it without controversy; in fact, this is exactly why the aforementioned reckoning took place. I think when it comes to racial issues like this, we shouldn't have rules where one thing is acceptable for a specific group of people and unacceptable for another. Either it should be acceptable for everyone or unacceptable for everyone. If we say that it is fine for everyone to dress as someone from another race but just not include the

addition of colouring one's skin, then that is something I can understand. Leaving it in the grey where it's only okay for some people will just lead to confusion and more incidences of mistakes and anger.

Some might make the argument that we look at blackface too critically compared to other costumes someone might wear. For example, let's say at a party a white man is getting criticized for dressing in blackface and a person walks by dressed as a white character, like a Viking. In searching whether dressing as a Viking was okay, many sites said it was fine, despite the fact that the most well-known moniker of Vikings was that they "raped and pillaged" communities and were bloodthirsty warriors. Even if they didn't really do that, this is a big part of their legacy and image. Rape is still a serious problem in the world yet this costume gets a pass, but dressing as a black celebrity or character is somehow worse—even if done respectfully and with positive intentions (e.g., admiration for the person). I think most people can't even imagine how Vikings could have roamed in our society since they lived so long ago, but blackface is still considered a very recent trauma in the last hundred years, so it needs to be cut on all levels.

I will fully admit that my opinion on this may not be informed since I am a white person commenting on this, and I admit

that my stance is controversial because pretty much every article I found not only said it was wrong, but chastised anyone who dared to have an opinion otherwise. But I just cannot understand why anybody of any race would ever be offended by someone dressed as a character from another ethnic group as long as they do so respectfully. If it is someone dressed as a slave, or dressed as a minstrel show character, I can understand why that offends since that is specifically using a character or a moment in time that brought great pain to black people. But if someone is dressing up as a fictional character, or a real-life person, and it's done out of appreciation and respect for that person/character, why is that considered offensive? There is an debate to be had about cultural appropriation, but that topic is far too detailed to cover in this argument.

Blackface gets a lot of hate, but I believe that if it is someone acting as a specific character (as long as that character itself wasn't specifically designed to offend), or someone consents to someone else dressing as them, why should that be considered offensive or given the label of



"racist" blackface? I know the world still has many areas of injustice but saying that dressing as a character or figure is offensive regardless of intent is not going to solve this problem. We need to stop hyper fixating on such issues and focus on fixing the true problems of inequality; maybe in the future, we will look at dressing in blackface the same way we look at dressing as a Viking—just a costume with no intent to offend.

A worthless symbol

› Retrain your brain to stop craving luxury goods

Alexis Zygan
Contributor

Despite the cliché about not judging a book by its cover, judging others is a part of our unconscious brain chemistry. The way a person speaks, behaves, and especially how they dress registers either a positive or negative response; this subconscious reaction is why first impressions matter in situations such as attending a job interview or meeting a potential romantic partner for a first date. The instinct may also explain why people avert their eyes from a disheveled individual on the streets and hold high regard for a person dressed to the nines from head-to-toe in luxury brands—their presentation signals status. People inherently care about their image and how others view them. However, defining people solely on their goods is harmful, especially since greed and vanity are customary to many. Modern society, under the capitalist system, preserves materialism by encouraging consumers to keep buying. Even if people do not have the money for the iconic double G gold Gucci belt, retailers still find a way (e.g., Amazon sells a dupe for \$20).

The luxury goods industry is predicted to grow by nearly \$103 billion from 2020 to 2025. During a pandemic that has impacted

the global economy and led to mass unemployment, some affluent consumers still go forward as normal—purchasing luxury items from household names; out of touch with middle-class struggles, well-to-do people buy Rolex watches and Hermes handbags to flex their wealth on social media.

"Flex" is a slang term for bragging and is said to originate from Ice Cube's hit single "It Was A Good Day." The term skyrocketed to popularity in 2013 and brought forth "flex culture," the act of

flaunting wealth online for validation. Flex culture is just one of the many negative impacts of luxury goods on people who cannot afford the luxury lifestyle. Even those who can afford these items end up basing their self-image solely on their possessions, a slippery slope to a supercilious egotistical outlook. Many of these luxury brands are far from ethical; Louis Vuitton and Fendi received scrutiny after an investigation uncovered that they allegedly pay factory workers the same wage as sweat-shops. Worse still, the

high-end price and Made-in-Italy tag in no way represents sustainability. To prevent depreciation and protect their status, firms like Gucci, Chanel, and Burberry burn unsold items. Other luxury brands, such as Cartier, purchase back unsold watches to be destroyed and recycled.

A movement has arisen in response to vapid materialism that rejects the value of luxury goods. Many minimalists choose not to partake in mass consumption and are often motivated by the promise of financial stability or reducing debt caused by the mindless materialism. Some hope to rewire their brains to no longer seek external validation from purchasing goods. Minimalists can be seen as the antagonists to the bourgeoisie who spend their money on items from household luxury brands Gucci, Versace, and Louis Vuitton.

Even though a Hermes handbag may signal wealth, one cannot decipher a person's capacity for kindness, empathy, or wholeheartedness based on their appearance. It is up to consumers to become aware of their subconscious judgements and get comfortable with the cognitive dissonance of changing their thinking to revert from fixed conclusions that result in jealousy and arrogance. No amount of luxury brands can ever turn someone into a genuinely good person.



Photo by Arnaldo Fragozo

What I did on election nights



Illustration by Sonam Kaloti

› The US election that was must-see TV

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist

The 2020 US election is something that everyone has been waiting for four years. The election will not only affect our neighbours down south but it will impact Canada and the rest of the world too. When the coronavirus pandemic came to the United States, it created an uncertainty of who would win the election and changed the course of time.

The entire world was watching the coverage of the election—even the major channels in Canada were covering it. This year's election coverage might be more exciting than the 2000 US election. Before I began watching the coverage of the election at 1 pm, I watched the update of

the coronavirus pandemic in Canada to find out how the country is handling it. I watched CNN's coverage of the election because I think is the least biased of all the cable news channels in the country.

As the night progressed, I found out that other news organizations had different results so I had to change between several channels including PBS, C-Span, and even Canadian news channels including CBC. While some channels called Arizona for Joe Biden early, including surprisingly Fox News, CNN did not call it because they said it was too close. At the end of the night, Joe Biden won in Washington but Donald Trump declared that he pretty much won the election in the White House despite the fact that there were still more votes to be counted over the next few days.

I took a rest from watching the election for an hour and when I woke up, they had just called Hawaii for Joe Biden and he was in the lead in Wisconsin where he would win later. As I was watching the coverage, there were a lot of mathematicians explaining the vote and if you are very good at math, you could get what they were talking about. I hope that the election showed the electoral system works and that the vote counters are doing their job of counting every legal vote to make sure that there is no voter fraud.

Supposedly because the in-person votes were counted first before the mail-in votes in some states, Biden caught up in Michigan and Wisconsin, and that changed everything. I thought that Biden would win the election if he won Arizona and Nevada. There were still more votes to

count and Trump supporters were outside a vote-counting facility in Arizona protesting that they should stop counting the votes; there were even some videos showing them singing "Y.M.C.A."

While no one won the election at that point, Biden told everyone to keep the faith and wait until every vote was counted while (in my opinion) looking like a president. On the other hand, Trump still thinks that Biden is stealing the election away from him because of voting fraud. CNN's Jake Tapper said that the following day was a sad day for America.

The 2020 US election is probably the greatest US election of all time because it caused everyone to be engaged more in government.

- Unique things to jerk off to
 - Over the moon
- ...and thats eveeverything!

Extremely niche adult video categories

› Unique things to jerk off to

Richard Dick
Senior Columnist

As human society has progressed, our technology has seen many spectacular strides. Space travel, modern medicine, and environmental sustainability are a few of the most spectacular of our achievements. Our most significant is undoubtedly porn though. And we REALLY have achieved what was once only the fever

dream of our poor, blue-balled ancestors. There's a sexy video on everything for everyone; there are too many categories to keep track of. Here are a few little known categories that live deep in the search engines of XXX websites.

Forklift certified

People with forklift certifications operating forklifts safely. These videos are the complete opposite of those fail videos with

forklifts. Nothing kinky here—that's simply too dangerous.

Correcting people's grammar

Videos where people correct the grammar of others. Of course some asshole is jerking off to this.

Zooey Deschanel

This category consists of girls saying things that could be construed as quirky, making them a million times hotter. "Compilation

of girls explaining how much they love The Smiths" is a popular video in this category.

Awkward silences

For sadists.

Porn stars that are actually phenomenal actresses

Statistically speaking, I guess SOMEONE had to actually care about this.



COMICS

Over the moon



CREATIVE WORKS



Counting Sheep

Sonam Kaloti
Arts Editor

you don't let me leave
so, I wait until you count your sheep
I want you to stay
awake but you are fast asleep

well I'm counting the days until you call back
you're waiting for me to cut you some slack
going skating on jet black tarmac
will you ride with me?

Oh, when I go outside
I know where I'll hide
So, find me in the trees
sippin' on moonbeams
don't forget the keys
in case I miscount your sheep

going crazy with pockets empty but we'd rather be no where

CROSSWORD

Weekly Crossword:
Second person

Caroline Ho
Contributor

ACROSS

- 1. Ink-saver?
- 4. Indent key
- 7. Die spot
- 10. Himalayan ungulate
- 13. Condition that can be caused by concussions
- 14. Stadium cheer
- 15. “Lemon” or “lime” ending
- 16. Prefix meaning “outer”
- 17. Weepy
- 19. Event with many historical costumes
- 21. What Dysons and Dirt Devils are
- 23. List of options
- 24. Orion’s title
- 25. “Anything’s fine,” briefly
- 27. Pig home
- 28. Video file format
- 32. Cry from a coop
- 35. The way
- 36. Font style, for short
- 37. Sound booster
- 38. Opposite SSW
- 40. Jean-__ Picard
- 42. Montevideo’s nation, briefly
- 43. __ Cong
- 45. Fed. accident investigator
- 47. Increasing
- 49. Engrave
- 50. Big name in horror manga
- 51. It’s largely made of dead white blood cells
- 52. Distinguished
- 55. Connector type for many newer electronics
- 58. What a lot of pale-coloured furniture has
- 62. Mention
- 63. “Chandelier” artist
- 64. Menagerie
- 65. Candle count
- 66. Japanese plum
- 67. Pic
- 68. Conclusion
- 69. Chem. unit
- 70. Class for some immigrants
- 71. Born, abroad
- 72. Grassy land

DOWN

- 1. Abbr. in video surveillance
- 2. Elite group
- 3. V-sign’s meaning
- 4. What a vegetarian might order at a Japanese restaurant
- 5. Grad
- 6. Burp
- 7. __ leave
- 8. What might be said to a cute toddler
- 9. Pasta variety
- 10. Calendar span
- 11. X- or Y-
- 12. Seoul’s co.
- 18. Like pre-Germanic alphabets
- 20. Physicist Enrico
- 22. It’s a sin
- 26. What good and evil or political views are often depicted as
- 29. Spitting sound

- 30. Merit
- 31. Liquid-pouring sound
- 32. Give in
- 33. Leave out
- 34. Group with 13 member nations
- 39. Legal bar
- 41. What might be high when you have many programs open
- 44. Stem spike
- 46. A and B
- 48. “Hey, you!”
- 53. Prelude’s counterpart
- 54. Dye commonly used in histology
- 56. Screen edge
- 57. Hag
- 58. Cogito __ sum
- 59. Sky, en français
- 60. Common cocktail garnish
- 61. *Star Wars* character
- 62. [Thud!]

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Previous solution

A	D	O	B	O		A	R	A	L		L	E	F	T
R	O	W	A	N		M	U	R	O		A	L	A	R
F	R	E	N	C	H	O	P	E	N		O	O	Z	E
			Q	U	A	K	I	N	G	A	S	P	E	N
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		B	O	U	N	D	T	O	H	A	P	P	E	N
			N	R	A		E	T	A			A	R	E
O	D	E		R	G	B			I	N	P	L	A	Y
P	E	N	N	Y	A	R	C	A	D	E	S			
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R	O	U	T		I	T	E	R		W	A	Y	N	E
A	X	I	L		E	T	T	A		T	W	E	E	T



Virtual Guided Painting

Thursday November 19th
4:30-5:30pm
On ZOOM

Registration required
www.thedsu.ca

